

REMARKS

Claims 5 and 6 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-4 are canceled, and claim 5 is placed in condition for allowance. No new matter is introduced.

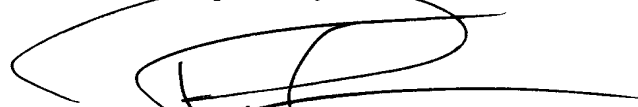
Applicant appreciates the Office Action's indication that claims 5 and 6 contain allowable subject matter. Claim 5 has been amended into independent form by incorporating the subject matter of canceled claim 1. Claim 6 depends from claim 5. Accordingly, claims 5 and 6 are in condition for allowance.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Sakuragawa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,759,924). These rejections are moot because claims 1-4 are canceled.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 5 and 6 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Paul Tsou
Registration No. 37,956

JAO:MIL/hms

Date: November 29, 2007

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 320850
Alexandria, Virginia 22320-4850
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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